

Chemical Processing Competency 2.3

Competency 2.3 Chemical Processing personnel shall demonstrate a familiarity level knowledge of Department of Energy, DOE Order 5000.3B, Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information.

1. Supporting Knowledge and Skills

- a. State the purpose of DOE Order 5000.3B, Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information.
- b. Define the following terms:
 - Event
 - Condition
 - Facility
 - Notification report
 - Occurrence report
 - Reportable occurrence
- c. Discuss the Department's policy regarding the reporting of occurrences as outlined in the DOE Order 5000.3B, Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information.
- d. State the different categories of reportable occurrences and discuss each.
- e. Refer to Attachment 1 of Order 5000.3B, Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information, and discuss the role of chemical processing-related reportable occurrences.

2. Self-Study Activities (corresponding to the intent of the above competency)

Below are two web sites containing many of the references you may need.

Web Sites		
Organization	Site Location	Notes
Department of Energy	http://wastenot.inel.gov/cted/stdguido.html	DOE Standards, Guides, and Orders
U.S. House of Representatives	http://law.house.gov/cfr.htm	Searchable Code of Federal Regulations

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Read DOE Order 5000.3B, *Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information*.

Read at least two occurrence reports involving facilities at your site. If possible, these should involve electrical system activities as at least a contributing factor to the cause of the occurrences.

- EXERCISE 2.3-A State the purpose of DOE Order 5000.3B, *Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information*.
- EXERCISE 2.3-B Define “Reportable Occurrence” and the rationale associated with reporting as identified in DOE Order 5000.3B, *Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information*.
- EXERCISE 2.3-C Referring to DOE Order 5000.3B, *Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information*, describe three categories of Reportable Occurrences and provide an example of the types of events that could lead to each.
- EXERCISE 2.3-D Describe the elements of the occurrence report.
- EXERCISE 2.3-E List three of the seven categories of causes.
- EXERCISE 2.3-F For the two occurrence reports you reviewed, identify and highlight the root cause and corrective action sections. How will facility management know if the corrective action is actually “correct”?

3. Summary

DOE Order 5000.3B, *Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information*, establishes a system for reporting of operations information related to DOE-owned or -operated facilities and processing of that information to provide for appropriate corrective action.

The Order describes the requirements for reporting and processing of occurrences related to the operation of DOE-owned or -operated facilities, including occurrences related to safety, health, security, property, operations, or the environment, up to and including emergencies.

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4. Exercise Solutions

EXERCISE 2.3-A State the purpose of DOE Order 5000.3B, *Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information*.

ANSWER 2.3-A “1. PURPOSE. To establish a system for reporting of operations information related to DOE-owned or operated facilities and processing of that information to provide for appropriate corrective action in accordance with the policy set forth in Paragraph 6 of this Order” (DOE Order 5000.3B).

EXERCISE 2.3-B Define “Reportable Occurrence” and the rationale associated with reporting as identified in DOE Order 5000.3B, *Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information*.

ANSWER 2.3-B Reportable Occurrences are events or conditions that (1) affect the health and safety of the public, (2) seriously impact the intended purpose of DOE facilities, (3) have a noticeable adverse effect on the environment, (4) endanger the health and safety of workers, or (5) adversely affect national security or the security interests of DOE.

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EXERCISE 2.3-C Referring to DOE Order 5000.3B, *Occurrence Reporting and Processing of Operations Information*, describe three categories of Reportable Occurrences and provide an example of the types of events that could lead to each.

ANSWER 2.3-C

Types, Definitions, and Examples of Reportable Occurrences		
Type	Definition	Example
Emergencies	The most serious occurrences; require an increased Alert status for on-site personnel and, in specified cases, for off-site authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) any unintentional nuclear criticality that results or could result in actual or potential facility damage or release of radioactive material to the environment;b) any actual or potential release of material to the environment that results or could result in significant off-site consequences;c) any natural or man-made event posing an actual or potential threat to the integrity of the facility that results or could result in significant off-site consequences;d) any event in process or having occurred that involves an actual or potential substantial degradation of the level of the safety of the facility that results or could result in significant off-site consequences;e) any safeguards or security event that is an actual or potential threat to DOE operations, facilities, or personnel, and results or could result in significant effects on the public health and safety/or on national security; orf) any event that requires activation of the site emergency plan.

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Types, Definitions, and Examples of Reportable Occurrences		
Type	Definition	Example
Unusual Occurrence	A nonemergency event that has significant impact or potential for impact on safety, the environment, health, security, or operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) result in the release of radioactive or hazardous materials above limits established in, or in violation of, safety, environmental, or health requirements defined in Federal permits, Federal regulations, or DOE standards;b) present significant internal or external threats to safety, the environment, health protection, or the ability of a facility to operate;c) involve significant degradation of safety class equipment or environmental, safety, security, or health conditions;d) result in fatalities, exposures to hazardous or radioactive materials or off-site or on-site contamination that do not meet emergency criteria defined in DOE Order 5500.2, but are in excess of regulatory limits, failure of environmental monitoring equipment necessary to demonstrate compliance, failure of safety equipment or systems reducing the capability below a minimum required safety function, or significant delay or cost in operations;e) result in the actuation of emergency systems or engineered safety features, except under approved testing;f) violate technical safety requirements, or involve an unreviewed safety question;g) violate DOE safety requirements, environmental requirements, or result in the loss of control or release of radioactive material above allowable limits;h) result in the release of a hazardous substance or material that exceeds a reportable quantity and is not Federally permitted as defined in Attachment I of DOE Order 5000.3; ori) result in failure or significant degradation of administrative controls that are required to ensure safety, security, or environmental protection.

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Types, Definitions, and Examples of Reportable Occurrences		
Type	Definition	Example
Off-Normal Occurrence	An abnormal or unplanned event or condition that adversely affects, potentially affects, or is indicative of degradation in the safety, security, environmental, or health protection performance or operation of a facility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) result in the release of radioactive or hazardous materials below limits established by Federal permits, Federal regulations, or DOE standards, but must be reported in writing to state or local agencies in other than routine monthly/quarterly reports;b) are internal or external threats to safety, security, environmental, or health protection or the ability of a facility to operate;c) involve degradation of environmental, safety, security, or health conditions;d) result in serious personnel injury or significant lost workdays, personnel contamination, assimilation, exposure, or significant on-site or off-site contamination of hazardous or radioactive materials in excess of administrative limits but within regulatory limits, or degradation of environmental monitoring equipment necessary to demonstrate compliance;e) result in violation of safety, environmental, or health administrative limits;f) involve operational procedural violations, including maintenance and administrative procedures that have the potential to impact the safety, security, environmental, or health performance or operation of a facility; org) involve discovery of a condition that could prevent the functioning of administrative controls necessary to ensure safety or environmental protection.

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EXERCISE 2.3-D Describe the required elements of the occurrence report.

ANSWER 2.3-D For every Reportable Occurrence, the Facility Manager shall determine and document the following in the occurrence report:

- a) the significance, nature, and extent of the event or condition;
- b) the cause(s) of the event or condition, including the root cause, as appropriate; and
- c) the corrective actions to be taken to correct the condition and prevent recurrence.

EXERCISE 2.3-E List three of the seven categories of causes.

ANSWER 2.3-E Categories of causes:

- 1. Equipment/material problem
- 2. Procedure problem
- 3. Personnel error
- 4. Design problem
- 5. Training deficiency
- 6. Management problem
- 7. External phenomenon

EXERCISE 2.3-F For the two occurrence reports you reviewed, identify and highlight the root cause and corrective action sections. How will facility management know if the corrective action is actually “correct”?

ANSWER 2.3-F Primarily by monitoring the corrective action or any performance indicators corresponding to this corrective action; also if the occurrence does not “occur” again.